

CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
W. M. CLENDINNEN. M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Diplomate of Public Health, University of Cambridge :
FOR THE YEAR
1920.

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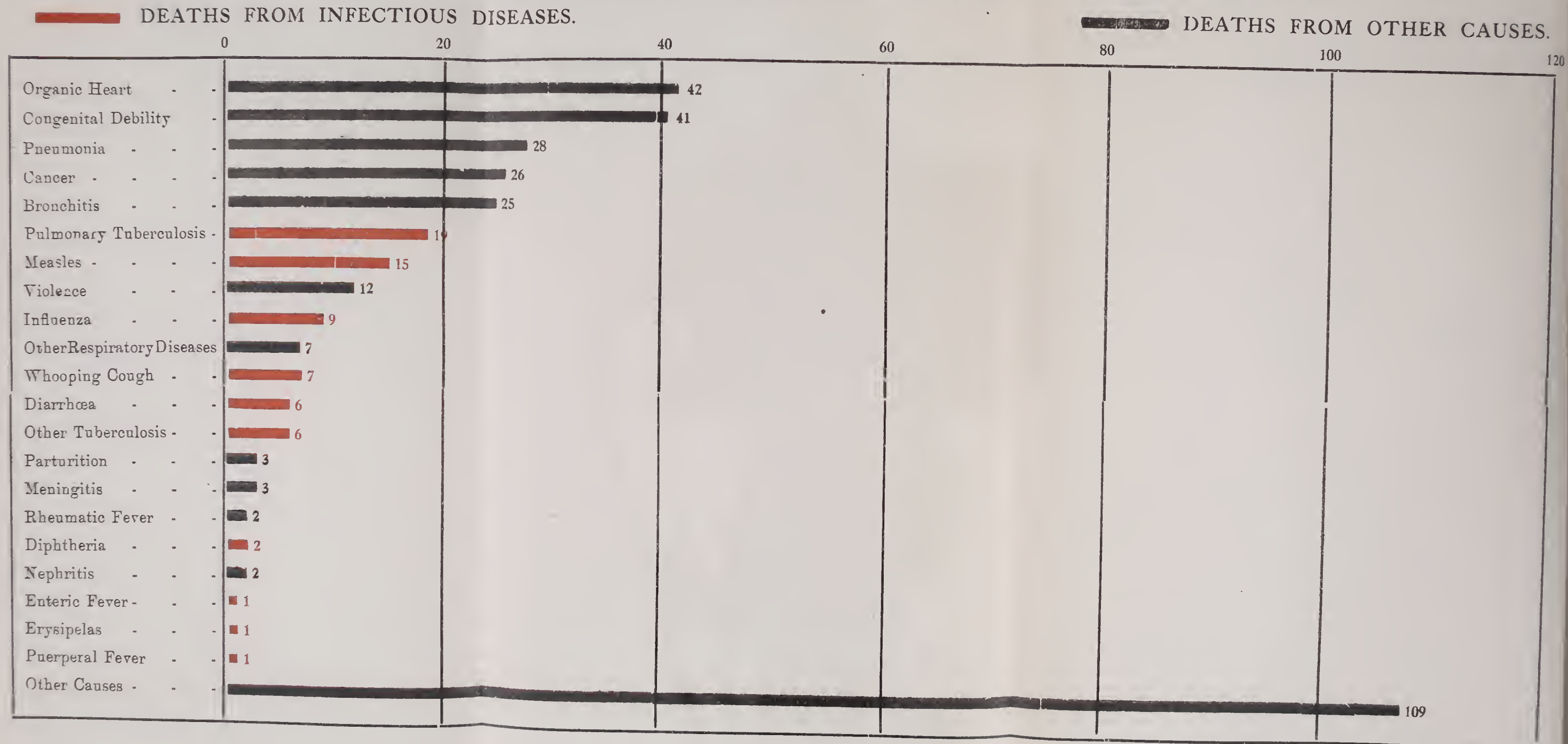
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HEDNESFORD.



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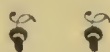
CHART SHOWING PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1920.



Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							Cannock Ward	Bridgtown Ward.	Hednesford Ward.	Littleworth Ward.	Chadsmoor Ward.	Heath Hayes Ward.		
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upw'rds								
Diphtheria	64		9	42	10	3			26	7	9	17	3	2		10
Erysipelas ...	9		1		1	1	4	2	7			1		1		
Scarlet fever ...	26		3	19	4				11	5	4		6			
Enteric Fever ..	1			1									1			
Puerperal Fever ...	3					3					1	1	1			
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	49	1		14	15	14	5		11	3	17	5	9	4		
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	12		4	6	1	1			2	2	1	1	5	1		
Ophthalmia Neon- atorum	8	8							3		1	2	1	1		
Pneumonia ..	4			1	1		2		1	1		1		1		
Dysentery ..	1					1							1			
Totals... ..	177	9	17	83	32	23	11	2	61	18	33	28	27	10		10

COMMITTEES.



PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE—

Mr. Councillor Benion	Mr. Councillor Lewis
„ „ Fairley	„ „ Wedge
„ „ Gallatley	„ „ T. Whitehouse
„ „ Jones	„ „ Wright

Chairman--Mr. Councillor T. Whitehouse.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE—

This consists of the Members of the Public Health Committee, with the following co-opted members :--

Mrs. Ingram Mrs. Price Mrs. Webster Mr. Webster

Chairman--Mr. Councillor Lewis.

HEALTH VISITORS—

Miss E. H. Jones, C.M.B., Miss F. Beresford, C.M.B.,
„ E. Wright, C.M.B. „ A. T. Bennett, C.M.B.

SANITARY AND HOUSING INSPECTOR—

Mr. John Turton, C.R.S.I., Meat Certificate.

ASSISTANT—

Mr. Percy Nash.

HOUSING ARCHITECT—

Mr. Harrison.



Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1920. and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each Year.		Nett Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
	For Death Rate	For Birth Rate	Number	Rate	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
					Number	Rate per 1000 nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1914	30500	30500	996	32·6	129	129	438	14·3
1915	30337	30337	920	30·3	91	99	417	13·7
1916	29755	32374	896	27·6	82	91·5	403	13·5
1917	28785	32087	864	26·9	85	98	358	12·4
1918	28806	32276	860	26·6	107	124	615	21·3
1919	33411	34804	794	22·7	67	84	383	11·4
1920	34743	34743	984	28·3	86	87	367	10·5

Area of District in acres (exclusive of } 8010
area covered by water }

Total population at all ages—28,586 } At
Total families or separate occupiers, 5744 } Census of
1911

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W. M. CLENDINNEN,

● M.B., Ch. B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ●

Diplomate of Public Health, University of
Cambridge.

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Eighth Annual Report I have cut out certain particulars which can be found on reference to the previous report. It seemed to me unnecessary to cause expense by having these reprinted.

The outstanding feature of the sanitary circumstances of the district is, of course, the over-crowding in houses. The widespread effect of this is so serious that it is to be regretted the building of new houses does not proceed more rapidly.

The large amount of work required in improvements and repairs to existing houses is also a serious matter. For even if a thousand new houses were built and 5,000 to 6,000 people put into them, there would still be a population approaching 30,000 people living in the existing houses many of which require attention. No doubt the general death rate is very satisfactory, but it is not to be expected that it will remain so without persistent attention to sanitation.

The infant mortality rate, which is a truer index to the health of a district, is not bad considering all the circumstances, but it is 33 per cent. above that of a town ten miles away.

The number of defective children in the schools also shows that this rate can be further reduced.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The birth rate, which had dropped from 32·6 per thousand in 1914 to 22·7 in 1919, has risen to 28·3, and is still slightly increasing. There is no excess of male children, the total of 984 births registered comprising 495 males and 489 females.

The death rate, which has decreased continually since 1914 is 10·5 per thousand as against 12·4 for England and Wales. There have been 66 fewer deaths than would have occurred if the rate had been the same as that of England and Wales, and 130 fewer deaths than would have occurred if the rate had been the same as in 1914.

The infant mortality rate is slightly higher than in 1919 when it was the lowest experienced in this district.

1920

Causes of Death.

			Males.	Females.
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	1	0
Measles ... ..	...	...	10	5
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	1	6
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	1	1
Influenza ... ..	...	...	5	4
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	1	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	9	10
Tuberculous Meningitis .. ..	...	...	2	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. ..	...	...	2	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	...	...	13	13
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	1	1
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	3	0
Organic Heart Disease ... ..	...	...	20	22
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	12	13
Pneumonia—all forms ... ..	...	...	16	12
Other Respiratory Diseases... ..	...	...	2	5
Diarrhœa, etc.—under two years ... ..	...	...	4	2
Appendicitis ... ..	...	...	0	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	0	1
Parturition—apart from Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	0	3
Congenital Debility, etc ... ..	...	...	25	16
Violence—apart from Suicide ... ..	...	...	9	3
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	...	...	57	47
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..	...	...	2	2
	Total	...	197	170

Special Causes included above—

Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	0	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	1	0

Death rate per 1,000 from Zymotic Disease, 1920 ... ..	...	0·89
Average for previous five years ... ..	...	1·06
Death rate per 1,000 from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	...	0·54
Average for previous five years .. ..	...	0·71
Death rate per 1,000 from other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	...	0·17
Average for previous five years ... ..	...	0·33
Influenza Death Rate, 1920 ... ..	...	0·23
" " " 1919 ... ..	...	1·0
" " " 1918 ... ..	...	4·2
Pneumonia " " 1920 .. ..	...	0·8
" " " 1919 ... ..	...	1·3
" " " 1918 ... ..	...	4·1
" " " 1913-17 ... ..	...	1·26

	Birth Rate per 1000 Total Population	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.								Rate per 1,000 births		
		All causes	Enteric Fever	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs)	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales ...	25.4	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.19	0.04	0.11	0.15	0.28	0.48	8.3	80
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000 ...	26.2	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.14	0.16	0.31	0.43	10.4	85
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000--50,000	24.9	11.3	0.02	0.00	0.19	0.03	0.10	0.14	0.27	0.38	7.8	80
London ...	26.5	12.4	0.01	0.00	0.22	0.05	0.17	0.22	0.30	0.47	9.5	75
Cannock ...	28.3	10.5	0.028	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.20	0.05	0.23	0.30	6.1	87

There were 24 requests, and 5 uncertified deaths.

ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

This Table shows the deaths and death rate from these diseases during the past five years.

Disease.	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Small Pox.	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	5	13	35	0	15
Scarlet Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria.....	6	6	14	4	2
Whooping Cough	3	1	8	2	7
Enteric Fever.....	0	1	0	0	1
Diarrhœa	7	12	10	3	6
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	21	33	67	9	31
Rate per 1,000	0.7	1.1	2.3	0.26	0.89

ACCIDENTS.

The deaths from violence (chiefly coal accidents) in the last five years are as follows:—

Year	Deaths	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000
1916	19	16	3	- 0.63
1917	9	8	1	- 0.31
1918	20	14	6	- 0.69
1919	21	16	5	- 0.62
1920	12	9	3	- 0.31

For comparison the following provisional figures given by the Registrar General for England Wales for 1920 are appended:—

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water.

The question of improved supply at Pye Green was taken up during the year, but after communications with the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company it was decided to defer the matter for the present owing to the high cost involved.

Statutory notices were served for the provision of the public supply to houses in Cannock hitherto depending on pumps. This work is not yet completed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

For this reference may be made to last year's report.

Closet Accommodation.

The Sanitary Inspector reports as follows:—

At the end of 1920 this was:

Wet Ashpits	...	...	2,011
Dry Fixed Ashpits	...	...	942
Waste Water Closets	...	...	620
Fresh „	„	...	2,390
Pans	...	...	118
Dust Bins	...	...	1,108

Conversions During 1920.

Water Closets substituted for Privies	...	...	87
Dust Bins substituted for Privy Ashpits	...	...	53
" " Dry " "	...	...	13
New additional Water Closets (not new houses)	...	...	16

Scavenging.

There have been fewer complaints as to delay in scavenging. The number of men employed has averaged 25. The comments made under this heading in last year's report still apply.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for Year 1920.

(GENERAL ORDER).

A	Number of inspections made during the year	...	1693
B	Number of notices served	...	307
a	Preliminary	...	204
b	Statutory	...	103
c	Result of service of such notices--improvements	...	2866

TABLE I

No. of visits to Slaughterhouses and Meat Shops during the year	...	...	...	1530
No. of visits to Markets during the year	...	...	...	46
" " Cowsheds and Dairies during the year	...	...	...	134
" " Knackeryards during the year	...	...	...	68
" " Bakehouses and Workshops during year	...	...	...	113
" " School Sanitary Conveniences during year	...	...	...	288
" " Common Lodging Houses during the year	...	...	...	96
" Canal Boats inspected during the year	...	...	...	57
" inspections made under the H.T.P. Act during year	...	...	...	2871
" inspections and re-inspections made respecting notices and work in progress during the year	...	...	...	1693
" visits to Scarlet Fever cases during the year	...	...	...	24
" " Diphtheria " " " "	...	...	...	16
" " Pneumonia " " " "	...	...	...	5
" " Enteric Fever " " " "	...	...	...	1
" Rooms disinfected after recovery from Diphtheria during the year	...	...	...	37
" Rooms disinfected after death from Diphtheria during the year	...	...	...	1
" Rooms disinfected after recovery from Scarlet Fever during the year	...	...	...	15
" Rooms disinfected after death from Cancer during the year	...	...	...	1
" Rooms disinfected after death from Enteric Fever during the year	...	...	...	1
" Rooms disinfected after death from Tuberculosis during the year	...	...	...	23

No. of Rooms disinfected after removal to Sanatorium for T.B. during the year	5
„ Rooms disinfected after Erysepilas during the year	1
„ Removals to Hospital of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria Cases during the year ...	8
„ Dirty Rooms disinfected during the year ...	4
„ Midwives' rooms disinfected during the year ...	3
„ Rooms disinfected for vermin during the year ...	5

TABLE II

No of Preliminary Notices served during the year ...	204
„ Statutory Notices (including Section 36 P.H.A. and H.T.P.A. 1909)	103
„ Letters written to owners re Nuisances during the year	162
„ Rooms disinfected during the year ...	104
„ Overcrowding cases investigated during the year	99

TABLE III

	Notices	Houses
Privies and Ashpits... ..	16	52
Choked Drains	50	76
Choked water closets	17	20
Choked waste water closets	8	13
Defective water closets	29	37
Dampness, defective firegrates, ceilings, roofs, spouting, quarry floors, etc.	68	81
Absence of water supply to water closets	18	27
Defective, leaky coppers and foul brick sinks	13	25
Untrapped, defective and insufficient drainage	10	22
Absence of accommodation for house refuse	12	13
Dirty bakehouse walls	1	1
Dirty house	1	1
Absence of water supply	3	4
Accumulation of manure and animals kept so as to be a nuisance	7	6
	<hr/> 253	<hr/> 378

SCHOOL SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The sanitary conveniences at the various schools are regularly inspected. Any defects found are reported to the Secretary to the Education Authority. Two hundred and eighty-eight inspections have been made during the year.

BAKEHOUSES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 10 bakehouses and 34 workshops in the district, and 113 inspections have been made.

Shoeing smiths ... 5	Upholstering .. 2
Boot repairers ... 7	Saddlery 1
Dressmaking ... 5	Mason 1
Tailoring 6	Sugar Boiler ... 1
Millinery 4	Joinery 2

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two common lodging houses. These are regularly inspected. Inspections made 96; special attention being given to cleansing and limewashing. They are kept comparatively clean, and no occasion has arisen for the serving of notices, or the institution of proceedings through the contravention of the Bye-laws. No case of infectious disease has been reported.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

I beg to report that there are 46 registered cowsheds in the district. There are 39 cow-keepers and the number of cows kept is 206. The cowsheds have been visited periodically. One new cowshed has been built and an application for registration received. One cow-keeper has given up.

There are thirteen milk purveyors.

CANAL BOATS.

Ninety-six inspections of canal boats have been made during the year. Forty-seven inspections were made at the Hednesford basin, and 49 at Walk Mill Wharf.

Fifty-seven occupied boats were inspected; there were also 84 registered boats locked up, which were either loaded or waiting to be loaded.

In the course of my inspections one contravention of the Canal Boats Act has been found.

A notice was served on the owner, this notice is still outstanding. Several minor defects were remedied by giving personal warning.

I have given special attention to the condition of the cabins as to cleanliness and ventilation. With regard to the health of the occupants, I find them to be comparatively clean and healthy, with no evidence of any serious illness or infectious disease.

The following is a summary of the inspections and of the occupants of the boats inspected.

Insp't's	Boats	Males	Females	Children	1-3 yrs	3-12 yrs	12-14 yrs
96	57	102	13	3	1	2	0

DWELLING HOUSES.

Walls, plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	489
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	30
New wood floors	...	...	...	...	13
Wood floors repaired	...	...	...	...	21
New quarry floors	...	...	...	...	53
Quarry floors repaired	...	...	...	...	34
New firegrates	...	...	...	...	46
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	33
New windows	...	...	...	...	31
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	98
New doors	...	...	...	...	14

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Premises 1	Number of		
	Inspection 2	Written Notices 3	Prosecutions 4
Factories, including factory laundries	---	---	---
Workshops, „ workshop laundries	113	2	---
Workplaces, other than outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this report	---	---	---
Total	113	2	---

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Particulars 1	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions. 5
	Found 2	Remedied 3	Referred to H. M. Inspector 4	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*				
Want of cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors				
Other Nuisances	2	2		
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient				
Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1		
Not separate for sexes ...				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss 97 to 100)				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork, which are included in part 3 of this report)				
Total	3	3		

3.—Home Work.

There is only one out-worker in the district, whose premises are satisfactory.

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s 131) at the of the year					Number
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	10
Shoeing Smiths	...	...	...	...	5
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	7
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	5
Tailoring...	...	...	...	...	6
Millinery	...	...	...	...	4
Upholstering	...	...	...	...	2
Saddlery ...	...	...	...	...	1
Mason ...	...	..	...	...	1
Sugar Boiler	...	...	...	...	1
Joinery ...	...	...	...	..	2
Total number of Workshops on Register ...					44

5.—Other Matters.

Class		Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s 133, 1901	...	—
Action taken in matters referred	Notified by H.M. Inspector... Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory & Workshop Acts (s 5, 1901)		—
Other		—
Underground Bakehouses (s 101) in use at end of year...		—

Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	60
New door-steps	...	...	...	1
New sashcords and fasteners	...	.	...	215
New ceilings	...	—	...	2
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	65
Pantry floors raised	...	...	...	8
Pantries ventilated	...	...	...	4
Bedrooms ventilated	...	...	...	4
New hand-rails to stairs	..	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	62
Houses supplied with water (S.S.W.)	...	...	...	6

SPOUTING.

Houses spouted	...	...	...	4
Sculleries spouted	...	...	...	6
Spouting repaired	...	...	...	79

PAVING.

Yards paved	...	...	...	50
Yards paving repaired	...	...	...	17

WATER CLOSETS, DRAINS, ETC.

New water closets	...	...	...	53
New water closet basins	...	...	...	17
New water closet cisterns	...	...	...	9
Water closets put in order	...	...	...	36
Water supply laid on to water closets	...	...	...	6
Choked water closets opened	...	...	...	67
Choked waste water closet opened	...	...	...	10
Coalhouses converted into water closets	..	...	...	10
Privy conversions	...	...	...	14
Privies demolished	...	...	...	26
Privy ashpits demolished	...	...	...	18
New dry ashpits	...	...	...	2
Ashpits rendered dry	..	...	...	5
Dustbins substituted for ashpits	.	..	...	10
New dustbins	...	...	...	76
Houses re-drained	...	...	...	24
Yards of new drains	...	...	...	480
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	28
Drains trapped	...	...	...	10
New inspection chambers	...	..	...	18
New stonewear gullies	60
New bath	1
New privies (no sewer)	4
New privy ashpits	6
Privies pointed up	6

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WASHHOUSES, ETC., INCLUDING SINKS, ETC.

New sculleries	7
Sculleries repaired	22
Washhouses repaired	...	...	...	...	2
New coppers	...	...	...	...	19
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	71
New sanitary sinks	...	...	...	...	51
Sinks repaired or re-fixed	...	...	...	...	10

OTHER MATTERS.

New chimneys	...	...	...	...	7
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	66
New coalhouses	...	...	...	...	21
Coalhouses repaired	...	...	...	...	13
New urinals	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of manure removed...	...	...	...	...	5
Cowsheds limewashed	...	...	...	...	37
Bakehouses limewashed	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses limewashed	...	...	...	...	18
Houses—walls pointed...	...	...	...	...	46
New gable ends	...	...	...	...	3
Gable ends pointed and cemented	...	...	...	...	5
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	11

Total number of improvements	...	...	...	...	236
					2866

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Slaughterhouses	...	31	Offensive trades	...	1
a Registered	...	12	Mortuaries	...	2
b Licensed	...	19	Common Lodging Houses	...	2
Cowkeepers	...	39	Cinemas	...	5
Milk Purveyors	...	13	Tents and Vans	...	

Knackeryard.

There is one knackeryard. This is situate in a field at a considerable distance from any dwelling houses. The business is carried on in as satisfactory a manner as can be expected, considering the nature of the trade carried on. This is licensed annually. During the year 68 visits of inspection have been made.

(Signed) JOHN TURTON,

3. (a) School Hygiene.

There are 17 Schools—9 provided, 8 non-provided, comprising 26 departments, and accommodating 5958 children.

The average attendance for the year ending March 1920 was 5459.

The Committee are well aware that this matter requires much attention, especially in the older Schools. Improvements carried out during the year include a provision of a new heating apparatus at Rawnsley School, replacements of a portion of the old unsatisfactory desks, by new dual desks at two Schools, and redecoration of the three departments at Heath Hayes, Boys' and Infants' departments at West Hill, the Church of England Girls' and Infants' School at Bridgtown, S. Joseph's and S. Mary's Roman Catholic Schools. As regards their surroundings these are in the main satisfactory, light and air not being obstructed, and the Schools little hampered by noises of traffic or industry.

With the exception of Rawnsley School the closets at all the Schools are on the water carriage system though in many cases the arrangements are of objectionable type. Up to the present it has not been found possible to secure the facilities necessary to provide water carriage at Rawnsley which is situate at an outlying portion of the district.

As regards the cleanliness of the Schools this leaves much to be desired. The Committee are frequently much limited in their choice when requiring caretakers, and in some cases these persons live at a considerable distance from the Schools, and most of them have their own families and homes to look after. It is desirable that where possible work should be combined so as to require the whole time of a caretaker.

At a recent visit to a department which had been redecorated quite lately, it was appalling to observe the thick cloud of dust which filled the class rooms where dry sweeping was going on at 4-30 p.m. At another visit to an Infant School, also recently redecorated, thick dust was present on all furniture, ledges, and walls.

At several Schools there is no provision for weighing the children, the machines being defective. All schools have the public water supply.

The following conditions were found on a recent inspection of the departments specified :

S. Joseph's R.C. School, Hill Top.

Accommodation 118 mixed and Infants, average attendance 131

Three class rooms.

Lighting : Natural—Good Artificial, incandescent burners
—Good.

Ventilation : Roof ventilators, Tobin Tubes and Hoppers—
Good.

Heating : Open fires. Thermometer 60°F Cold day. Windows
open.

Floors : Boarded—Good repair.

Walls : Colour washed green—Clean.

Blackboards : Satisfactory.

Cloakroom accomodation : Pegs for Girls and Infants, 58
Distance apart, 23in. Not heated. Boys pegs, 50. Not heated.

Lavatory : Girls and Infants, 2 basins, Soap, Clean towel
Boys, 3 basins, Clean towel.
Towels changed twice a week or as required.

Drinking Water : Girls and Infants from main, two
enamelled cups. Boys from main. two cups.

Furniture : Dual desks in Infants and Standard 1, remainder
obsolete.

Cleansing : Floors damped with sawdust before sweeping.
Walls dusted every 6 weeks. Walls and floors sprayed
with Jeyes Fluid twice daily in winter, and three times
in summer.

Playground : Gravel soil—no portion paved.

W.C. Accomodation : Boys, 4, Girls, 4, Infants, 2. All these
are single pedestals with separate flush and kept in a
very satisfactory and clean state. Paper is provided.

Urinals : Boys, 8 places, partitioned by slate slabs and backed
by slate in good repair. Flushed by rain down spout
and hard water tap. No offensive smell.

Infant Boys 50in length slate, flushed by down spout.
Separate Sanitary accommodation for Teachers.

There is a system of a prefect marshalling the others, for use
of urinal and closet so that there is no overcrowding.

Prefects are also appointed for (1) cloakrooms, to see no
clothes are left on the floor. (2) Lavatories, for orderly
use and to see taps are turned off. (3) Good conduct in
playground.

Provision for drying children's clothes : At open fire in class
room. Children are encouraged to bring a change of
footgear in wet weather.

Mid-day interval : Many children remain at the school. The
Teachers supervise lunch and make hot cocoa. All are
seated.

Church of England School, Bridgtown.

Girls and Infants, Accommodation 123. Three class rooms,
one for Infants and a main room divided by movable
screen into two.

Lighting: (A) Infants, Natural—Good. Artificial, incandescent
(B) Girls, Natural—Not good. Windows one side only.
The windows do not reach the ceiling by nearly 3 feet.
Lower panes opaque. Right hand light in one room.
Left could be arranged. Some obstruction from adjoining house. Artificial, Incandescent.

Ventilation : Infants, 6 Sherringham valves. Roof ventilator—said not to have been in order lately. Too few window openings—hoppers required.

Girls : Roof ventilators, 8 hoppers, 2-ft by 1-ft 3-ins. Sherringham valves in opposite wall.

Heating : Infants, open fire—not very satisfactory.
Thermometer 46°F on outside wall 11 a.m. cold day.
Girls : One stove in each room. Thermometer 57°F.

Floors : Boarded—Good repair.

Walls : Infants, Green in upper part, lower 5-ft glazed brick.

Girls : Green in upper part, lower, 5-ft painted brown—Fairly clean.

Cloakroom : Blue brick floor. Contains stove for heating.
Ventilation and light—not sufficient. Frosted glass partly. 109 pegs, 11-ins apart on walls and movable stands.

Lavatory : Three basins.

Drinking Water : Direct from public supply. Cups in cupboard in class room. Only two children stay lunch.

Furniture : Thirty six dual desks ; others old pattern.

Playground : No portion paved.

Sanitary Accommodation : Seven pedestal water closets.
Urinal, slate back, flushed by down spout

Heath Hayes Boys School.

Accommodation 259. Four class rooms.

Lighting : (A) Natural—Bottom of windows too high, also frosted glass—Not good. (B) Artificial, Incandescent, poor.

Ventilation : Hoppers, Sherringham valves. Roof ventilator said not to act. Some rooms get rather offensive—Not good.

Heating : Low pressure hot water. Open fires—Satisfactory.

Floors : Boarded—fair condition.

Walls : Recently redecorated. Will soon be dirty owing to dust raised in cleansing.

Cloakroom : Along corridor—inadequate.

Lavatory : Four basins. Discharge pipe too horizontal. Easily blocks. Taps worn out.

Drinking Water : Direct from public supply—no cups.

Furniture : Some new. Desks and seats for upper standards too small.

Playground : Unpaved.

Sanitary Accommodation : Four closets and one for Teachers Automatic flush.

Urinal : 16-foot length undivided, concrete back Tap to flush but placed at discharge end.

The rain water down spouts are not disconnected in open air and the end class room has apparently been built over the storm water drain, which joins up with the foul drains. Teachers, children, and caretakers have remarked on an objectionable smell in this class room. Mice are seen in some numbers. This matter is having attention.

Heath Hayes Girls' School.

Accommodation : 287. Five class rooms.

Lighting : (A) Natural—Bottoms of some windows are too high—10-feet from floor. Ground glass requires removal. (B) Artificial—Good.

Ventilation : By hopper openings—cross ventilation above corridor. Junior room especially gets stuffy.

Heating : Low pressure hot water—satisfactory. Fires in 3 class rooms.

Floors : Boarded—fair.

Walls : Recently re-decorated.

Cloakroom : Inadequate provision—one small room. Pegs in corridor

Lavatory : 3 basins and slopstone—discharge pipes are boxed in and smelly.

Drinking Water : Now direct from public supply. Enamelled cups.

Furniture : Some dual desks, the rest of obsolete type. Gallery in two rooms.

Playground : Unpaved.

Sanitary Accommodation : Seven closets, automatic flush. Flushed by caretaker twice daily.

Heath Hayes Infants' School.

Accommodation : 250. Four class rooms.

Lighting : (A) Natural—fair—some ground glass. (B) Artificial (hardly required) naked gas burners.

Ventilation : Sherringham valves, roof ventilators, hoppers. Some of these do not open. Some rooms get stuffy.

Heating : Low pressure hot water. One open fire--satisfactory

Floors : Wood blocks—Fair condition

Walls : Recently redecorated.

Cloakroom : Two—heated. Some re-arrangement is required. One room has insufficient entrance and exit room.

Lavatory : 3 basins but no taps over them.

Drinking Water : Direct from public supply.

Furniture : 36 dual desks—others long. Three galleries.

Playground : Asphalted. Mining subsidence.

Sanitary Accommodation : Six closets, automatic flush—Sufficient. Urinal, 20-feet length, concrete back—not partitioned.

West Hill Boys' School.

Accommodation : 338. Seven class rooms.

Lighting : (A) Natural—Some windows too high from floor. More required. Some ground glass. (B) Artificial—Incandescent.

Ventilation : Hoppers. Sherringham valves. Swing windows—Very poor.

Heating : Low pressure hot water and open fire—Good.

Floors : Boarded—in bad repair.

Walls : Recently redecorated.

Cloakroom : Two. Recently improved, but pegs too close, 8-ins apart.

Lavatory : Four basins. Supply pipe is exposed and water is frequently unobtainable during frost

Drinking Water : Direct from public supply. One enp.

Furniture : 118 dual desks. Old desks no back. Not graded to size of scholars.

Playground : Partly paved.

Sanitary Accommodation : Seven closets—one for Teachers, automatic flush.

Urinal : 20-feet. 5 slate partitions. Concrete back—Foul. Liquid leaks through wall.

West Hill Infants' School.

Accommodation : 269. Five class rooms.

Lighting : (A) Natural—Ground glass and coloured glass.
(B) Artificial—Incandescent.

Heating : Low pressure hot water and open fire—Satisfactory
Floors : Boarded—Fair.

Walls : Redecorated recently. Coated with dust.

Cloakroom : Heated. Pegs too close.

Lavatory : Six basins. Discharge pipe boarded in and not disconnected.

Water : Direct from public supply. Enamelled cup.

Furniture : One set dual desks. Tables and chairs required.
Old desks no backrests. Standard 1B desks too small.

Playground : Not paved. Refuse bin required.

Sanitary Accommodation : Five closets and one for Teachers
Automatic flush.

Urinal : Twelve feet—one slate division—no flush. Concrete
back perishing.

GENERAL NOTES.

Playgrounds should have sufficient paved space for physical exercises in wet weather. Class rooms should be ventilated by openings on the opposite sides, into the outside air ; in which case ceiling extractors are unnecessary. Clear glass should be used in windows ; sun blinds being provided where necessary. Cloakrooms should be thoroughly lighted, ventilated and warm, with good means of ingress

Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

I dealt with this matter in some detail in last year's report.

I regret that I am unable to record improvements in the way the trade is, generally speaking, carried on. Cleanliness of premises and methods are unsatisfactory.

(b) MEAT.

The Sanitary Inspector reports :—

Slaughterhouses and Meat Shops

There are 31 slaughterhouses in the Cannock district, 19 are licensed and 12 registered. Nineteen applications were received for renewal of licenses, all the applications were granted for one year under the Public Health Act (Amendment Act) 1890. The number of visits to slaughterhouses and meat shops was 1,530, and the total amount of food surrendered being :—

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							Cannock Ward	Bridgtown Ward.	Hednesford Ward.	Littleworth Ward.	Chadsmoor Ward.	Heath Hayes Ward.		
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upw'rds								
Diphtheria	64		9	42	10	3			26	7	9	17	3	2	10	
Erysipelas ...	9		1		1	1	4	2	7			1		1		
Scarlet fever ...	26		3	19	4				11	5	4		6			
Enteric Fever ..	1			1									1			
Puerperal Fever ...	3					3					1	1	1			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	49	1		14	15	14	5		11	3	17	5	9	4		
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	12		4	6	1	1			2	2	1	1	5	1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	8	8							3		1	2	1	1		
Pneumonia ..	4			1	1		2		1	1		1		1		
Dysentery ..	1					1							1			
Totals... ..	177	9	17	83	32	23	11	2	61	18	33	28	27	10	10	

		Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Tuberculous Beef	...	11	0	0
Tuberculous Pork	...	1	1	0
Unsound Frozen Beef	...	1	1	20
Unsound Frozen Liver	...	0	1	17
Unsound Herrings	...	2	1	8
Unsound Salmon	...	1	2	0
Unsound Haddock	...	0	0	7
Unsound Sultanas	...	2	2	4
Unsound Potatoes	...	16	0	0
Unsound Offals	...	3	0	0
Total	...	1 ton	19 cwts.	2 qrs.
				0 lb.

JOHN TURTON,
C.R.S.I. and Meat Inspector.

The number of Slaughterhouses in use at the dates mentioned were :—

	In 1914	In Jan., 1920	In Dec., 1920
Registered...	16	11	12
Licensed ...	15	20	19

There is no public abattoir and it is desirable that one should be provided.

Greater attention to the cleanliness of slaughterhouses and their surroundings is required. Proper provision for storage and removal of manure is required at many of them.

(c) OTHER FOODS.

The remarks made in last year's report still apply. Many of the pork butchers who prepare potted meats, sausages, etc., require better equipped premises for the work, and more cleanly methods should be pursued.

No case of food poisoning came to my notice.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

In addition to the diseases notified as set out in the Table the Head Teachers reported the following from Elementary Schools.

Measles	...	...	699
Whooping Cough	...	...	20
Mumps	...	...	3
Chicken Pox	...	...	25
Other cases	...	...	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Diphtheria	..	...	15
Sore Throats	...	...	8
Scabies	...	...	5

DIPHTHERIA.

Notified cases and deaths during last six years :—

Year	Cases Notified.	Deaths
1914	33	11
1915	21	3
1916	33	6
1917	17	6
1918	45	14
1919	48	4
1920	64	2

In the first quarter 17 cases occurred, three in the second, 17 in the third, and 27 in the last.

The type of the disease varied from severe to very mild cases. Two were found in school inspection.

With the exception of an outbreak at Cannock, on the outskirts of the district, spread of infection did not appear to arise from school attendance, and there was no evidence of infection through milk.

The Cannock Wood outbreak occurred in November and, it was this series of cases which produced the two fatal results.

Connection was established with attendance at a County School in the adjoining rural district, and carriers were found in the school. Nine of the 13 cases in this locality occurred in three houses, the only children escaping infection in one of the houses being two to whom I had administered a prophylactic dose of antitoxin.

The total 64 cases occurred in 52 houses, and as only ten cases were removed to hospital for isolation it is pertinent to note that cases subsequent to the first arose in only nine houses, although 86 presumably susceptible children and young persons inhabited the houses from which cases were not removed for isolation. Children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids appear to be more liable to infection than those with normal throats.

Patients and contacts are excluded from school until declared free by bacteriological tests.

SCARLET FEVER.

For the fifth year in succession no death has occurred from this disease.

Twenty-six cases were notified, six in the first quarter, five in the second, two in the third and thirteen in the last.

Some very mild cases were discovered at school inspections.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The cases notified during the year were pulmonary 49, other forms 12, viz., glands six, meninges two, intestines one, spine one, hip one. Deaths registered during the year were: Pulmonary 19, other forms six

The Health Visitors paid the following visits :

Primary visits	...	64
Periodical re-visits	...	435
Special visits	...	1
Useless visits	...	18

Details of the work are given in last year's report.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1920.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months	Total Deaths under one Year.	Cannock	Bridgtown	Hednesford	Littleworth	Chadsmoor	Heath Hayes
All causes	Certified ...	27	7	3	3	40	10	14	9	12	85	17	8	16	11	24	9
	Uncertified ...	1				1					1	1					
Measles ...	...								2	1	3	1	2				
Scarlet Fever...	...																
Whooping Cough ...	...							2	1	3	6	3				2	1
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...															
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	...							1			1				1		
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...															
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...																
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...									1	1					1	
Convulsions ...	...				1	1	1			1	3			1		2	
Bronchitis ...	...						3	2		1	6	2	1		1	1	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...		1			1	1	3	2	2	9	2	1	2	1	2	1
Other Respiratory ...	...							1		1	2			1		1	
Diarrhoea ...	...							1	1		2		1			1	
Enteritis ...	...							1	1	1	3			1	2		
Injury at Birth ...	...	3				3					3	2					1
Atelectasis ...	...	1				1					1		1				
Congenital Malformations ...	...	2				2		1			3	1		1		1	
Premature Birth ...	...	12	4	1	1	18					18	4	2	4	2	4	2
Atrophy, Debility and	...																
Marasmus ...	...	10	1	2	1	14	4	1	1		20	3		4	4	8	1
Other causes ...	...		1			1	1	1	1	1	5			2		1	2
Totals		28	7	3	3	41	10	14	9	12	86	18	8	16	11	24	9

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.

One death, in the first place certified as due to acute Polio Encephalitis, was investigated by a Pathologist to the Ministry of Health, and evidences of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis were found.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One death, in the first place certified as due to acute Polio Encephalitis, was investigated by the same Pathologist, who reported that the case was probably one of Encephalitis Lethargica.

ENTERIC FEVER.

One death was certified as due to this disease. Source of infection was not discovered. No other cases were notified.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Particulars regarding the Statutory Committee, the work undertaken, and the staff employed are given in full in last year's report.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The number notified was 991 live births and 52 still births. In 32 cases registered by the Registrar no notification had been received; that is, over three per cent. of the births failed to be notified. This is more than last year and somewhat disappointing. An explanation frequently given is that two persons have relied on each other to send in the notification and neither has done so. Generally speaking the Act is well observed. Midwives sent 793 notifications, and doctors 198.

Two midwives who have now ceased practice in the district did not observe the time limit of 36 hours laid down by the Act.

WORK OF HEALTH VISITING.

Changes in the staff of four half-time Health Visitors, and illness, have interfered with the work.

Primary visits paid to infants	...	...	989
Total re-visits	...	...	3604
Visits to children over 1 yr. included in re-visits			1221
Useless visits	...	...	381
Special visits	...	...	172
Visits to measles	...	...	915

STILL BIRTHS.

From investigation into 52 still births which were reported in the year, the following information appears:—

Previous health of mothers.—31 good, nine fair, two bad, not recorded 9.

Physique of mothers.—32 good, nine fair, not recorded 10.

One mother had still-born twins.

Previous mis-carriages.—15 had occurred in 11 of these women.

Doctor in attendance at birth in 21 cases. No doctor or mid-wife present in three cases.

ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS.

? Contracted pelvis	...	...	3 cases
Abnormal presentations	...	...	6 "
Prolapse of funis	...	...	2 "
Eclampsia	...	...	1 "
Influenza	...	...	2 "
Malformation of child	...	...	1 "
Endometritis	...	...	2 "
Shock	...	...	4 "
Biliary Colic	...	...	1 "
Placenta prævia	...	...	1 "
Violence falls, etc.	...	...	6 "
Macerated foetus	...	...	3 "
Premature	...	...	3 "
Vomiting of pregnancy	...	...	1 "
No known abnormality	...	...	16 "
In ten cases delivery was instrumental.			

INFANT DEATHS.

These are the subject of enquiry, and particulars regarding 78 show the method of feeding in 55 to have been as follows:—

Breast fed	...	...	30
Artificial feeding	...	...	20
Mixed feeding	...	...	5

In three cases no record was made, and in the remaining 20 death occurred so soon after birth that no record of feeding is possible.

In only one case did the mother go out to work according to the records. In 22 cases the death of the infant was associated with death or illness in the mother.

Maternal deaths:—

Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	1
Lobar pneumonia	...	...	1
Intestinal obstruction	...	...	1

Maternal ill-health:—

Fits (subject to)	...	...	2
Debility, anæmia, etc.	...	...	10
Influenza	...	...	1
Ante partum hæmorrhage	...	...	2
Excessive sickness	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	1

In 24 cases where these 78 infant deaths occurred the houses are supplied with fresh water closets. The remainder have conservancy methods except two which have slop water closets.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The general statements made in last year's report again apply.

The following table shows the death rate per 1,000 births during the previous five years, at ages 0-1 month, and 1 month to 1 year.

Year	Under 1 month		1 month to 1 year.	
1915	...	40.2	...	58.7
1916	..	43.5	...	48.0
1917	.	46.3	...	52.0
1918	..	41.8	...	82.5
1919	.	40.8	...	47.2
Average	...	42.5	...	57.7
1920	...	41.6	...	45.7

In 1918 there were nine deaths under one year from influenza.

Death rates per 1,000 births from different causes are as follows :—

Year	Diarrhoeal	Respiratory	Congenital	All causes
1915	...	9.8	...	19.6
1916	...	5.5	...	20.0
1917	...	10.4	...	17.3
1918	...	8.1	...	33.7
1919	...	3.8	...	16.6
Average	7.5	...	21.4	...
1920	5.0	...	17.2	...

1910-14.	Average death rate	0-1 month	...	50.4
"	"	"	1 month to 1 yr....	73.9

This shows that deaths in the first month do not diminish at a satisfactory rate.

In 1920 one infant death was uncertified. Two infants were certified by the Coroner as dying from want of proper attention at birth, and one from pneumonia. There were 35 illegitimate births and four deaths of illegitimate infants, giving a death rate of 114 per thousand births.

Particulars of infant deaths in the different wards are as follows :

Ward	Notified births	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 births
Cannock	.. 219	...	18
Bridgtown	... 83	...	8
Hednesford	... 197	...	16
Littleworth	... 130	...	11
Chadsmoor	... 224	...	24
Heath Hayes	... 138	...	9

I am unable to give the registered births in Wards.

NURSING ASSISTANCE.

During the year a District Nursing Association was started at Hednesford at a meeting attended by the County Nursing Superintendent and myself. The Association employs one nurse, and the Council make a grant of £25 per annum. The grants to Cannock and Chadsmoor Nursing Associations have also been continued. One more District Nurse is required to give an adequate service through-

out the area. A special nurse was employed for some weeks owing to an outbreak of measles in a part of the district in which no Association was working at the time.

The following are the particulars of the work these nurses did :

Disease	Cases	Number of visits
Measles ...	120	895
Whooping Cough	3	25
Ophthalmia ...	3	71
Polio-myelitis ...	2	93
Puerperal fever ...	1	5

MIDWIFERY.

Six midwives holding the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board reside and practice in the district, and also six bona fide registered midwives. About 20 per cent. of the births are attended by doctors.

One bona fide midwife was struck off the roll during the year. The midwife who was employed by the Council practised in the district from 1st October, 1919 for a year and attended 50 births during that time. She carried out her work well and the cases did well. When the year was expired it was arranged that she should have one of the new council houses in Chadsmoor and practice from there. Just before the house was ready she withdrew from the arrangement, and has left the district. At the present time the midwifery service of the district is not satisfactory.

The provision of a maternity home has been considered on several occasions, but it has not yet been considered practicable to take definite steps.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

This work has been carried on as described last year. Forty-six sessions were held at each.

FIRST ATTENDANCES—					Total	Average per
Under 1 yr. Over 1 yr.					Attendances	Session
Cannock ...	113	...	17	...	1409	30
Hednesford ..	145	...	76	...	1141	25

MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS—

	Primary	After first	Total
Cannock ...	129	367	496
Hednesford ..	221	326	547

It will thus be seen that 258 infants under one year were brought to the Centres.

In addition, six expectant mothers consulted the Medical Officer.

At Hednesford, where the practice was started at a time of shortage of liquid milk supply, 83 dozen lbs. of dried milk were sold.

The travelling Exhibition of Women Workers visited Cannock in June, under the auspices of the Council. The Marchioness of Anglesey kindly performed the opening ceremony on the first day,

and Mrs. Webster on the second. Much interest was shown and many local ladies assisted at the stalls. The exhibition was well calculated to instruct and interest. Arrangements were made for school children to see it.

The social side of the work is well looked after at the two Centres by voluntary workers, some of whom are very faithful in their attendance.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER.

Three expectant, 10 nursing mothers, and 14 children were supplied with milk during the year, at a cost to the Council of £28 10s. 9d.

In five cases the mothers were widows, in 12 cases the father was ill, three being cases of tuberculosis, and one child's father was away on military service and the mother ill.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Eight cases were notified. Particulars are as follows:—

Notified by Doctor	Age at onset 1 day	...	Result
			Recovery with slight scar one eye
"	5	"	Recovery without damage
"	9	"	" " "
"	3	"	" " "
"	8	"	" " "
"	1	"	" " "
"	7	"	Died from another cause.
Midwife	9	"	Recovery without damage

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Three cases were notified and one death occurred

DISORDERS OF PREGNANCY AND PARTURITION.

Three maternal deaths were registered as follows:—

- 1.—Pulmonary Embolism.
- 2.—Puerperal Eclampsia.
- 3.—Post partum hæmorrhage.

One death from pneumonia, and one from intestinal obstruction also occurred in the lying-in period.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The number of illegitimate births and deaths registered in recent years has been as follows:—

	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births
1915	32	—	—
1916	34	—	—
1917	40	—	—
1918	45	9	200
1919	34	4	117
1920	35	4	114

There are no special arrangements for dealing with these cases.

POLIOMYELITIS.

No case was notified.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA.

Six deaths under two years were registered.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This disease caused seven deaths, six being children under one year. Three deaths occurred in Cannock, three in Chadsmoor and one in Heath Hayes.

MEASLES.

An outbreak of rubella occurred in Heath Hayes in March. This disease is very mild and the patients soon recover. It is therefore very unfortunate that the name of German measles should also be used for it as it is thereby confused with measles, which is an entirely different and fatal complaint.

Measles afterwards broke out in the same ward and a special nurse was employed by the Council to visit and nurse the cases. The disease gradually spread throughout the district, and in all 15 deaths were registered. The ages at death were as follows: Under one year, four; one to two years, six; two to five years, 4; and one over five years.

The greatest number of deaths occurred in Heath Hayes Ward, six being in Wimblebury.

The health visitors paid 915 visits, and district nurses (including the special nurse) paid 895 visits to 120 cases.

The infant class at St. Paul's, Bridgtown, was closed for four weeks.

Sanitary Administration.

STAFF.

The Sanitary Inspector holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and also Meat Inspection Certificate. He is also Housing Inspector. He has one uncertified assistant.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The premises purchased by the Council in 1917 for use as a hospital for general infectious diseases are not yet ready for use. Meanwhile the Rural Council have treated urgent cases from this district at their hospital. Arrangements are now being made for isolation of small pox conjointly with the Rural Council.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The remarks in last year's report require no alteration.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Under the arrangements made by the County Council the following specimens were sent to Birmingham University during the year.

Examination for Tubercle Bacilli in Sputum.

	Positive.	Negative.
Tuberculosis Officer ...	1	20
Private Practitioners ...	1	3

Nose and Throat Swabs for Diphtheria.

	Positive.	Negative.
Medical Officer of Health	17	54
Private Practitioners ...	20	65

ENTERIC FEVER WIDAL TEST.

Two specimens sent :—Positive, 1 ; negative, 1.

Housing.

I.—General Housing Conditions.

1. The great majority of the houses are occupied by coal miners. There are fortunately few back-to-back houses, and not much overcrowding on space. A large proportion of the older houses shows conditions of serious neglect and dis-repair, and certainly not more than two-thirds of the working-class dwellings in the district are in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. On 30th June, 1896, there were 4,001 houses. These had increased by 30th September to 6,120.
2. (a) Last year it was estimated that there was a shortage of 1,200 houses, and this still appears to be a fairly accurate figure.
(b) In last year's report details were given of sites on which the Council proposed to carry out Housing Schemes. Houses have been built, or are in course of erection, on all these, except Hall Court site, where no start has been made. The Council have proceeded with the other sites which had available roads and sewers first. The work has proceeded slowly, and up to the end of the year twenty-five new dwellings had been let to tenants, these, including twelve wooden bungalows and thirteen non-parlour, brick houses. At the present time, (March 1921), the number of houses for which tenders have been accepted is 142.
3. I have no information as to any anticipated important changes in population.

II.—Overcrowding.

1. The extent of overcrowding in houses is extremely serious. Over five hundred applications for new houses have been received, these mostly being cases of a family, lodging with another family, who are the tenants.

On the list are forty-two cases where there are three families in a house.

2. The chief cause of overcrowding is the shortage of houses.
3. The only measure which can be taken at present to deal with overcrowding, is to build.
4. The following are particulars of two cases of overcrowding noted in the year:—

(1) Man and wife, son over 14, two sons under 14, two daughters under 14.

Man and wife, son 16, daughter 19, daughter 13, baby.

Thirteen inhabitants in house of two bedrooms.

(2) Widow with six sons 8 to 21 years, single man

Man and wife, son 13, daughter 12, daughter 11.

Thirteen inhabitants in house of two bedrooms.

Twenty-five cases were abated during the year by removal of families from overcrowded houses to the new Council houses.

III.—Fitness of Houses

1. (a) The majority of working class houses in the district, contain two living rooms with scullery or wash house, and two or three bedrooms, and have through ventilation.

(b) Chief defects in unfit houses are dampness, general disrepair, lack of proper provision for storage of food, defective paving and drains, foul privy middens.

In many of the three bedroom houses, the third bedroom is small, without fireplace, and no means of ventilation except door and window.

Internal water supply is lacking in a good number.

The Housing Inspector reports that the houses inspected during the year may be thus classified:—

Houses in a good state of repair, with W.C. and dry ashpit or dustbin	767
---	-----	-----	-----

Houses having minor defects but W.C. and dry ashpit or dustbin	439
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

Houses with privies or W.C's and general defects	...	847
--	-----	-----

Houses with privies or W.C's and in bad state of repair...	48
--	----

(c) Improved management and supervision by owners is very desirable, and the Council should be careful to set a good example regarding their own Tenants.

2. (a) Greatly increased activity under the Public Health Acts is required to secure remedy of existing unsatisfactory conditions.

- (b) The comparatively small number of houses requiring closing under the Housing Acts with a view to demolition or repair cannot be dealt with until shortage of houses is less acute.

As I have before recommended the carrying out of repairs by the Council under the Housing Acts in default of the owners, in selected cases should be undertaken.

3. Difficulties in remedying unfitness arise in many cases owing to damage by mining subsidence and delay occasioned by negotiations between colliery companies and landlords.

Scarcity of labour is the excuse most frequently advanced for failure to do repairs.

Appendices.

Housing Conditions.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

1—General.

1. Estimated Population	...	...	...	34743
2. General Death Rate	...	...	...	10·5
3. Death Rate from Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	0·71
4. Infantile Mortality...	...	...	...	87
5. Number of dwelling houses of all classes	...	...	...	6128
6. Number of working class dwelling houses...	...	...	...	5648
7. Number of new working class houses erected	...	...	...	40

2.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.

I.—INSPECTION.

1—Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	...	...	...	...
2—Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	2871
3—Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	15
4—Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation...	...	...	...	847

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers...	34
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A—*Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.*

1—Number of dwelling houses in respect notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	0
2—Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit—				
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners				0
3—Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	0

B—*Proceedings under Public Health Act.*

1—Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...		
2—Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied —			
(a) By Owners	..	...	...
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners			

C—*Proceedings under Sections 17 & 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.*

1—Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	...	0
2—Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	...	0
3—Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined having been rendered fit	...	...	...	0
4—Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	0
5—Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	0

Unhealthy areas.—There are none.

Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws, erected with consent of Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919	1
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Staff Engaged on Housing Work.

Mr. Harrison	Architect.
Mr. Baker	Assistant Architect.
Mr. Turton	...	...	Housing Inspector.
Mr. Cole	...	...	Rent Collector.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CANNOCK,
31st March, 1921.

W. M. CLENDINNEN.

